



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION**  
DELAWARE FIRE SERVICE CENTER

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DOVER, DELAWARE 19904

## **STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION**

Monthly Meeting

April 16, 2019

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

David Roberts, Chairman  
Alan Robinson, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Ron Marvel  
Lynn Truitt - Absent  
William C. Kelly  
Joseph J. Leonetti, Sr.  
Richard T. Perillo

### **ALSO PRESENT**

Joseph C. Handlon, Deputy Attorney General - Absent  
Patrick Matthews, BLS Medical Director  
Sherry Lambertson, Executive Assistant  
David J. Truax, Investigator/Compliance Officer  
Grover P. Ingle, State Fire Marshal  
Robert P. Newnam, Director, State Fire School

### **GUESTS**

Bradley Gosch, American Legion Ambulance 64  
W. Mike McMichael, DSEMSA  
Bill Betts, DVFA  
Michael Chionchio, Office of State Fire Marshal  
Warren Jones, DVFA  
Jason Capps, DSEMSA President  
Jay Jones, DVFA

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Roberts called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **APPROVAL OF MARCH 19, 2019 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

It was moved by Vice Chairman Robinson, and seconded by Commissioner Leonetti that the minutes of the March 19, 2019 Commission meeting be approved. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

#### **Personnel Items**

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that Chief Deputy Fire Marshal Harry Miller will be off for an extended period of time after suffering from a severe medical condition on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that Deputy Fire Marshal II Michael Pfaffenhauser is progressing along in his recovery from a work related injury. He is anticipated to return to work after the completion of his surgical rehabilitation.

The Office Manager position in Kent County has been filled by Christine Galaska. Mrs. Galaska was an Administrative Specialist I in the Kent County office. She started on April 1, 2019 and is doing a good job. She will be a bright light in this position for the agency. As a result of this promotion, there is a vacant Administrative Specialist I position in Kent County. Fire Marshal Ingle requested authorization to move forward in the hiring process. It was moved by Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner Marvel to authorize Fire Marshal Ingle to interview and fill the position of Administrative Specialist I. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Fire Protection Specialist II Steven L. Callaway in the New Castle County Division has received his 15 year Service Award. Fire Marshal Ingle stated that he's been a great asset to the agency. It was moved by Commissioner Marvel, seconded by Commissioner Kelly to send Mr. Callaway a letter of congratulations. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

DTI – Program Update/Computer Deployment Updates/Office 365

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that they are progressing along in the Incident Program. The incident part of the program is almost complete with a few minor changes to be made. There are still a few issues with the Technical Services side of it and those are working on being corrected.

FY 2020 Capital Bond Bill Budget Hearing

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that he attended the FY 2020 Capital Bond Bill Budget Hearing on April 3, 2019. His agency did not have any request, but was in attendance to support the Fire School in their request.

Delaware Sprinkler Coalition

Fire Marshal Ingle attended the Delaware Sprinkler Coalition meeting on March 28, 2019. He also attended the live burn demonstration. They continue to do a good job at keeping the education going and getting people interested. More support is needed from the fire service in this area.

Out of State

Fire Marshal Ingle will be attending the CFSI Caucus in April.

Major Incident Investigations

March 20, 2019 – Just before noon Hartly Fire Co. was dispatched to a report of a fire on the residential property located at the 5900 block of Westville Road. Upon arrival they encountered heavy fire conditions involving multiple structures. Deputy Fire Marshal's determined that a person using a cutting torch to cut a bolt ignited a lawn mower under repair. The fire extended beyond the lawn mower damaging two pole barns and one trailer. No injuries were reported, heavy fire damage is estimated at \$500,000.00.

March 30, 2019 – Just before noon Minquadales Fire Company was dispatched to a residential structure fire in the 400 block of Robinson Dr. Dunleith. Upon arrival smoke was showing from the one story single family dwelling. Firefighter's contained the fire, rescued a dog from the residence treated and transported a 17 year old male to Christiana for burns. The male subject was listed in good condition and later released. Deputy Fire Marshal's determined the fire originated in the living room and was caused by a burning candle that ignited drapery on the interior side of the living room. Fire damage was estimated at \$5,000.00.

March 31, 2019 – Around 10:30 AM Carlisle Fire Company was dispatched to a structure fire in the unit block of Brandywine Road., Shawnee Acres. Upon arrival fire was showing with a male occupant refusing to leave the structure and became threatening to the firefighters. As a result the firefighters retreated and waited for the police to control the situation before reentering to extinguish the fire. The male occupant was transported to Bayhealth Sussex Campus for smoke inhalation in serious condition. The male occupant was found to be responsible for the fire and when he was able to be released the male occupant was arrested and transferred to Sussex Correctional Center. Investigation continues. Heavy fire damage was estimated at \$75,000.00

April 1, 2019 – Just after 4:30 PM Clayton Fire Company was dispatched to a mobile home fire in the unit block of Kenton Circle, Clayton. Upon arrival heavy fire was showing and a victim was still reported in the mobile home. Firefighter's rescued the victim from the mobile home. The female victim was transported to Crozier in critical condition with smoke inhalation and burns. Two other victims were transported to Bayhealth Kent Campus for smoke inhalation and burns. Two other victims were transported to Bayhealth Kent Campus for smoke inhalation and minor cuts. Both of those victims were later released. Investigation is ongoing.

April 4, 2019 – After 7:00 PM Hockessin Fire Company was dispatched to a structure fire in the 1100 block of Old Lancaster Pike. Upon arrival there was heavy smoke and fire showing. Deputy Fire Marshal's determined the fire originated in the second floor bedroom and was caused by a malfunction of lamp. Estimated fire damage was \$150,000.00 and nobody was home at the time of the fire.

April 7, 2019 – Around 1:00 PM Hockessin Fire Company was dispatched to a garage fire in the 100 block Chandler Avenue, Delaware Heights off Kennett Pike. Upon arrival flames were shooting from the garage that was attached to a single family dwelling. Deputy Fire Marshal's determined the fire to originate in the garage as a result of an electrical malfunction with the electric wiring in the garage. Smoke and fire damage occurred to the home.

DFIRS Incidents Received

TOTAL STATE PARTICIPATION IN COMPLIANCE			
70 %			
DELINQUENT DEPARTMENTS			
New Castle County			
Aetna		February	
Brandywine Hundred		February	
Cranston Heights		February	
Delaware City		February	
Minquadale		November – December (2018)	
Townsend		February	
Kent County			
Bowers		August – December 2018, February	
Cheswold		September 2018, January – February	
Clayton		January – February	
Felton		December 2018	
Harrington		December 2018, January – February	
Houston		February	
Little Creek		February	
Magnolia		February	
Marydel		January – February	
South Bowers		January – February	
Sussex County			
Bridgeville		January – February	
Roxana		February, August, October – December 2018	
OVERDUE REPORTS BY DAYS			
30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	90+ Days
8	4	2	4

Source: DFIRS Incidents received as of 4/03/19.

## **REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

### **Director**

- Sta. 21 Incident Review – Director Newnam reported that the review of Station 21 is progressing. The Fire School staff has concluded their interviews and it is going very well. No one has held back during the interviews and everyone has participated. The staff is currently compiling their information. When that is completed, there are three out of state individuals that will review the information. A Chief Officer from D.C. Fire Department, Chief Officer from Fairfax County, and a Chief Officer from Baltimore County will review the findings. Their input will be compiled along with the DSFS Report and will be submitted to the Fire Chief of Station 21 as a critique. Director Newnam is pleased with the process to date.
- Bond Bill (Capital Budget) Hearing, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Director Newnam stated that the Bond Bill hearing was uneventful and thanked those that were in attendance.
- National Fire Academy - DE Weekend – August 23-25 – Information sent April 4<sup>th</sup> – A copy of the announcements were provided to the Commission for review.
- Student Issues – Structural Fire Fighting Skills
  - Breathing issues – Transported, Illness/Fatigue – left class, Illness/Fatigue – rested, returned
  - Failure to Participate – withdrew from class due to anxiety – Fire Attack
- Student Injury – FB In-Service class – NCD – Rolled ankle, refused treatment, left class
- DTI Update – Director Newnam will no longer report on DTI until DTI is able to produce a programmer to work on the Fire School program.

### **Staff Activities**

- CFSI Symposium and Dinner – Senior Instructor's Ingram, O'Malley
- Pro Board Hazmat IC class June 26-29 - Newark Campus – Senior Instructor Miller
- Low Pressure Bulk Tank Trailer Emergency Response, Station 16 03/29 – Senior Instructor Miller
- IFSAC Meeting – April 3-7 – Senior Instructor Lowe
  - Next site visit Spring of 2021
  - Fall meeting Oct. 26-28<sup>th</sup> – Lexington, KY
- Staff Wire Barrier Median Training – April 15<sup>th</sup>, North Smyrna – Staff
- Provided a Drone operations demonstration – NYFD Incident Management Team – Senior Instructor Dempsey
- DP/PPE Course for Designated Officers – 04-11 – Senior Instructor Miller

### **Programs/Courses**

**Figures in red are reference to last year's comparison of class attendance.**

- Current Month
  - Structural Fire Fighting Skills – 73 students (81)
  - Advanced Vehicle Rescue – 32 students (28)
  - EVO Kent Division, evening – 14 students (27)
  - Law Enforcement Fire Orientation – New Castle County Police – 32 students
  - Advanced Interior Brigade – 5 students (3) cancelled
  - Custodial Fire program – have not received registrations from DOE
  - Industrial Confined Space Rescue – 5 students
  - Certification Testing
    - FO II, 3 students – FOIII, 6 students, Haz. Mat. Operations, 3 students
    - Safety Officer, 1 student
  - Advanced Exterior Brigade – 10 students (10)
  - Vehicle Rescue – 31 students (48)
- Divisions Usage
  - New Castle Division 16 programs (18)
  - Kent Division 6 programs (11)
  - Sussex Division 5 programs (3)
- Additions – Revisions
  - Continuing review of programs, Lesson Plans, Power Points, Handouts, Course overviews

### **EMS**

- Current Month
  - CEU programs – 8 classes scheduled (9)
  - EMR Kent Division weekend – 6 students (7)
  - WFD EMT testing April 4<sup>th</sup> – 17 students
  - EMR refresher Kent Division – weekday – 5 students
  - BLS Provider – Kent Division – weekday – 7 students
  - Heartsaver 1<sup>st</sup> Aid program – Kent Division – weekday – 5 students
  - EMT-Refresher – Kent Division – weekend – 6 students (6)
  - BLS Provider – NC Division – weekday – 4 students
  - DAFB EMT Practical's – April 26<sup>th</sup> – 9 students
  - Three County EMT classes practical's – 64 students

### **Public Education and Injury Prevention - Activity Report**

- Current Month
  - Fire Safety Programs – 1 scheduled
  - DSFS Tours – 1 scheduled
  - Fire Safety Displays – 1 scheduled
  - Injury Prevention Programs and events – 8 scheduled

### **Maintenance – Building and Grounds**

- Normal maintenance operations and class support
- Changed O2 EMT bottles to air filled for training only
- Water booster heater for dish washer replaced
- Facilities bidding repairs to side walk at the New Castle Division
- Contracted repair to railing Structural Building New Castle Division
- HVAC – unit removed from roof, waiting for the new unit to arrive to schedule installation
- Restrooms, scheduled bidding for July, construction for October time frame.

### **Financial**

- Past Due Billings
  - 30 days – 4,825.00
  - 60 days – 67,765.70
  - 20678 Tuition Fund – 606,845.00
  - Accounts receivable – 82,055.00
  - Revenue Comparison
    - Tuition – 2019 – 95,140.25, 2018 – 68,797.00
- Special Funds Summary – The Special Funds Summary report was submitted to the Commissioners for review.
- Expenditure Report – The Expenditure report was submitted to the Commissioners for review.

### **Staff and Office Staff Meeting Minutes**

Staff and office staff meeting minutes were submitted for Commission review.



### **Personnel Issues**

- 20 years of State Service, service with DSFS – Jerry Brennan  
It was moved by Vice Chairman Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Leonetti to recognize Jerry Brennan for his 20 years of state service. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **Follow up**

Commissioner Marvel asked Director Newnam how the registration is going for the Emergency Service Financial Class that is being offered. Director Newnam reported that New Castle County has 25 individuals (7 Companies) registered, Kent County has 12 (3 Companies) individuals registered, and Sussex County has 4 individuals (1 Company) registered. Some of the companies are requesting that the class to be taught in-house. It's also possible to present the information during the county meetings or online. Director Newnam stated that he hopes the fire service realizes that they don't want to see this become mandatory in Officer Training.

Commissioner Kelly followed up with Director Newnam regarding training injuries. He asked if injuries are tracked and the root cause of them. Director Newnam stated that he does keep track of them and will begin submitting that in report form to the Commission monthly. He stated that 80% of the injuries are from fatigue. Other main issues that are seen are anxiety "Anxiety Attacks". They aren't actual physical injuries, but more about lack of physical fitness.

### **REPORT OF THE BLS MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Dr. Matthews gave a Naloxone update. Five fire companies have requested training to carry Naloxone through OEMS.

The flu is in week thirteen and is slowing in Delaware, but still considered widespread. There are more than 6,000 confirmed cases in Delaware this year. There have been 23 flu related deaths statewide. EMS is encouraged to document flu like illnesses for surveillance purposes. There may be a spike in Influenza B in the next several weeks.

Dr. Matthews reported that word traveled quickly statewide with regard to his concerns of the CPR Assist Device (Lucas Device) not being used properly in Delaware, which causes it to migrate off of site. He looks forward to hearing about feedback and is pleased to see corrections being made.

## **REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATOR/COMPLIANCE OFFICER**

23 Annual Ambulance Unit Inspections

0 New Unit Inspections

5 Complaints Received

2 Arrest Notifications were received.

4 New Investigations

5 Open Cases from 2018

7 Open Cases from 2019

Mr. Truax presented Case No. 1901 and 1902 for closure. It was moved by Commissioner Perillo, seconded by Commissioner Leonetti to close Case No. 1901 and 1902. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Truax requested a hearing for Case No. 1821 to be placed on the May 21, 2019 agenda. It was moved by Commissioner Perillo, seconded by Commissioner Marvel to schedule a May 21<sup>st</sup> hearing for Case No. 1821. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Review Quarterly Scratch Reports (January, February, March)**

The Commission reviewed the statewide scratch reports for January, February, and March. Leipsic Fire Company exceeded the 9% scratch rate limitation. Vice Chairman Robinson will reach out to them and discuss what plan they have in place and get a better understanding of what happened this quarter.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Delaware State EMS Association – Mandatory Medication Discussion**

Delaware State EMS Association President Jason Capps addressed the Commission with regard to beginning a dialogue on making the current optional medications a mandatory requirement on the Ambulance Equipment List. He requested on the record that the Fire Prevention Commission make the optional medications as well as CPAP mandatory.

He stated that the State EMS Association has received a letter of support from the Sussex EMS Association in making these items mandatory. A report was submitted to the Commission that shows currently 100% of the fire companies are using Narcan, 80% Albuterol, 60% Epi Pen, 80% Aspirin and 85% are using the CPAP.

Delaware State EMS Association – Mandatory Medication Discussion cont.

Commissioner Leonetti asked if there was any push back because of the cost increase. President Capps stated that the only cost concern expressed was because of the Epi Pen. They are currently approximately \$300 per Epi. There is now an Epi Kit that can be purchased for \$30 - \$40. President Capps is attempting to set up a meeting with the Medical Directors so they can review this Kit and determine if it is viable to approve it for the BLS Service.

Warren Jones, DVFA Executive discussed the subject of Safe Harbor. It is a Federal Program that protects against hospitals offering incentives for ambulance service providers to transport patients to the. They cannot offer a gift to get patients transported to their hospital. It has been determined that the “Exchange Program” is not part of Safe Harbor. Hospitals are able to exchange ambulance unit items that are used during transports. This would eliminate the cost problem of these items being made mandatory, but will not eliminate the initial cost of the item being purchased.

The Commission suggested that the State EMS Association address this subject through the DVFA Committee’s and bring it back before the Commission for further discussion.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Fire School Injury Report

Director Newnam presented the Commission with a verbal report of Fire School training injuries as discussed earlier in the meeting.

16 Reported Injuries

- 8 Fitness Injuries – Anxiety, Breathing, etc.
- 2 Twisted Ankle
- 2 Cuts
- 1 Shoulder – Pulling Hose
- 1 Cardiac Arrest – EMT Class

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

None

## **REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS**

### **Vice Chairman Robinson**

Vice Chairman Robinson reported that he attended the Monthly Commission Meeting, DEMSOC Meeting, Kent County Vol. Firefighters Association Meeting, Citizens Hose Fire Company Meeting, Citizens Hose Fire Company Board of Directors Meeting, and Hobb Ryan Dinner in Cheswold.

### **Commissioner Ron Marvel**

Commissioner Marvel reported that he attended the Monthly Commission Meeting, Elsmere Viewing, Kent County Firefighters Association Meeting, Bond Bill Hearing in Dover, Viewing of Representative Danny Shorts mother, Viewing of Laurel Past President, and FDIC Conference in Indianapolis.

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

May 21, 2019 – 9:00 AM  
Commission Chamber  
Delaware Fire Service Center  
1463 Chestnut Grove Road  
Dover, DE 19904

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Vice Chairman Robinson, and seconded by Commissioner Kelly that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sherry R. Lambertson*

Sherry R. Lambertson  
Executive Specialist

sl/